associations, and in the line with the declared objective of the Government in the National Common Minimum Programme to make available life saving and essential drugs at reasonable prices to the poor. In this Policy some of the schemes for improving accessibility of free medicines to the poor are: National Health Insurance Policy for the BPL families; Larger allocation to be made for National Illness Assistance Fund/State Illness Assistance Funds; District Illness Assistance Fund to be set up; Revolving Funds for BPL families to be set up; States would also be asked to set up revolving funds in all the Government hospitals for free treatment of BPL families; Rajasthan model of Medicare Relief Societies to be replicated in all the States in the form of Drug Banks.

Some of the pharma companies have expressed their concerns about increasing the number of medicines in the basket of price control.

The Policy was submitted before the Cabinet for its approval. The Cabinet considered the Policy in its meeting held on 11-1-2007 and has referred the matter to a Group of Ministers (GoM). A GoM has since been constituted.

Fixing dividend on production cost of medicines

†1214. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government had made a draft policy in June, 2006 to fix the consumer sale price of medicines for the drug manufacturing industry;

(b) if so, whether this draft was as per the policy of fixation of consumer sale price by fixing dividend on the basis of the production cost;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for not fixing the consumer sale price of medicines by Government so far in the country on the basis of said policy?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (b): In June, 2006 the draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 was circulated amongst various Ministries/Departments concerned for their comments. In June, 2006 the Government also issued an Order S.O. 946(E) dated the 26th June, 2006 *vide* which it has become mandatory to print maximum retail price on all medicines inclusive of all taxes on batches manufactured on or after the 2nd October, 2006. This decision has been implemented by the Drug Industry and maximum retail price (consumer sale price) inclusive of all taxes is being printed on all medicines.

Import of raw material

†1215. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain materials are imported for manufacture of Chemical Fertilizers;

(b) if so, their names and percentage per unit;

(c) the efforts being made to manufacture the imported materials in the country; and

(d) the annual cost of the total imported material?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Raw materials like Rock phosphate, Sulphur and intermediates like Phosphoric Acid, Ammonia are imported by the manufacturers of Chemical Fertilizers due to limited availability of these materials in the country to meet the total requirement of the Fertilizer industries in India. Finished fertilizer like MOP, the availability of which is met through imports only, is also used as raw material in Complex manufacturing plant. The main grades of finished fertilizers are DAP, MOP and Urea. Every metric ton on DAP contains 46% or 460 Kg of 'P' (Phosphate) as P205 and 18% or 180Kg. of 'N' (Nitrogen). Similalrly, every metric ton of MOP contains 60% or 600 Kg. of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.